

## Missionary Servants of the Most Blessed Trinity

General Council

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Commissioner Robert Taub, Chairman Commissioner Tony Hammond, Vice Chairman Commissioner Nanci Langley Commissioner Mark Acton

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
FEICE OF THE SECRETAR

Postal Regulatory Commission 901 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 200 Washington, DC 20268 RE: Docket No. RM2017-3

Dear Commissioners,

May the grace and peace of the Holy Spirit be with us forever!

We join the National Catholic Development Conference (NCDC), the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers, and the nonprofit mailing community in urging you to reconsider your proposal to increase postage rates several times the rate of inflation. Increases that are estimated to reach 7 percent a year, or 40 percent compounded for five years, will not reform the United States Postal Service and will have a major negative impact on both the agency and its customers.

As a nonprofit, we rely on mail for the majority of our fundraising. But we operate on a limited, fixed fundraising budget each year, so if postage goes up as much as you contemplate, we will be forced to greatly reduce our mailings. This will have a disastrous impact on our revenue and our mission.

Our mission is to serve the poor and abandoned in the US, Puerto Rico, and Mexico. For example: we are about to send a sister to Puerto Rico specifically to help address needs created by the hurricane disaster. We are totally supporting her, she will not earn a salary or stipend of any kind. We can't do work like this without donor support, which comes through our direct mail program.

A postage increase like this would have a substantial impact on our mission and the people we serve. This feels like tax on **non-profits who are providing services the government otherwise would have to provide.** Please do the right thing and reconsider your proposal.

Blessings in the Trinity,

Sr. Deborah Wilson MSBT

General Councilor, Missionary Servants of the Most Blessed Trinity